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MNEMONICS—OR, THE ART OF MEMORY

APPLIED TO STATISTICS. This branch is called political geography, as it is not the situation of a place upon the globe, but its resources as to extent of territory, population, produce, &c. &c. to which it refers. For the purpose of applying the mnemonic system to the recollection of statistical facts, we require one tablet, (see Table 3, fig. 1.) where the hieroglyphics are arranged in ladders and steps, and numbered the same as for geography—*i. e.* all the pillars in a row on the first step, all the heads on the second, all the feet on the third, &c. &c. But as each ladder will serve for one country, or state, you can make use of any ladder at pleasure, only confine yourself to that one to prevent confusion;

Symbols, and if you choose, place some symbol over it, as a rose for England, a harp for Ireland, a thistle for Scotland, &c. The facts also opposite the steps can be altered

pillars, at pleasure. Pillars, the first series, are allotted to territory, and whether we consider the stability of pillars, or that they must have something to stand upon, they are surely appropriate to the purpose; the next

heads, step is for population, second series, heads; and certainly if any thing denotes population, heads do; the

feet, third step, feet, occupies the place for products, and very little will be produced without feet and hands.

lines, Arts and sciences are upon the fourth step, and lines take the place; science is so connected with lines, that the ideas are not easily separated; the fifth step is designed for government, and the fifth series for planets—these, according to judicial astrology, are inseparable, and though they do not govern us, it is certain we cannot govern them. The sixth series are

signs, &c. the signs of the zodiac, and as Aries, the ram, is the

first, a battering ram is not very unappropriate to the army and navy. Commerce. We next come to commerce, which is in the nameless series, seventh step—and it is well known that commerce ebbs and flows from nameless or various causes; Revenue. the eighth step is for the revenue which comes from all the quarters of the globe, and these are the eighth series. The last is religion; the ninth or last series are the seasons, and Religion. religion certainly is never unseasonable, it might also remind us, that as religion should be our first concern, it will be our last hope.

Statistics of England. We shall here give a few examples from the Statistics of England, in the year 1814. For this purpose, the first ladder is made use of. On the first step with Cleopatra's needle, place *Leopards*, which have been fighting, we may suppose, for they are in an *agony*. *Leopards*=57,828 gives the square miles, and *agony*=36,000,000 the square acres in England.

On the second step is the Sphinx, round which is a company of men—suppose them to be a *jury*, met to pass their judgment upon the many ridiculous stories told about it, for they are laughing, and *jury joking us*=4,844,638, the male population of England. Population. If you wish to recollect the female population, imagine a *Lady* standing at a little distance—and as she is ashamed of the jury for laughing so immoderately, she *needs a veil; Lady needs a veil*= 5,262,895. Products. The produce of a country is divided into two parts, viz. natural and artificial, these require no figures, but merely symbols—suppose the natural produce for which England is most famous to be wool, and its artificial or manufacturing produce, cotton goods and hardware, or glass—a woolpack and a cotton mill, &c. will suffice. The next step is of the same nature, not requiring figures for arts and sciences, &c. therefore place some significant emblem, as a music book for music, a pallet for painting, &c.

Government. The same may be said of the government of a country—where it is an absolute monarchy a crown is a fit emblem; for an aristocracy a coronet; for a democracy a hat; for a mixed government, two of these, or three, as the case may require—and as you think these branches preponderate, place one over the other. In Russia, though the government is called a monarchy, yet the nobles have in fact the power of deposing or making the monarch at pleasure—we should therefore place the coronet over the crown,

and leave the hat out of the question. Thus, by the use of these three emblems, and varying them according to circumstances, you can represent any known government in the world.

Army and navy.

We now come to the army and navy. The hieroglyphic for England, under this head, being the ram, suppose the ram fat with beef and biscuit, and it will give the army and navy of England at the time spoken of, the words *fat with*=290,000, the army; and *beef & biscuit*=121,819 the navy.—It would be almost impossible to think of beef and biscuit without thinking of sailors, and *vice versa*. The commerce of a country also brings into view two objects, viz. exports and imports; the imports at that time were 59,000,000, and the exports 66,000,000 in round numbers—the word *levy* gives the former, and *enemy* the latter number; and as industry is the hieroglyphic, we have a very apt sentence—by industry we *levy* on the *enemy*.

Exports and imports.

Revenue.

The revenue comes next under consideration, and as Europe is the hieroglyphic, and that always under the similitude of a woman, call her *Mary*=68,000,000, and it gives the revenue of England. For religion, on the last step, there must be appropriate emblems used, as designating the religion of the country under consideration; for Protestants the Bible; for Roman Catholics a cross; for Mahometans a crescent or half moon; for the Pagans an idol or pagoda; where there is free toleration, and the establishment Protestant, place the Bible, open above the cross—if Roman, let the Bible be shut and the cross upon it; but where there is no toleration, have a whip or a rack by the emblem, signifying if you do not conform, punishment will be the consequence.

Protestants.
Catholics.
Pagans.

Thus, by having statistical tables, the philosopher is enabled at one view, by comparing the population, extent of territory, commerce, &c. of one country with another, to form a tolerably correct idea of the benefits and disadvantages arising from different forms of government.

LANGUAGES, &c.—The mnemonic tablet—Table 1. fig. 4. can be applied not only to statistics, but to all studies that can be classified and arranged under different heads; as languages, by the different parts of speech, cases, declinations, &c.—music, its notes, subdivisions, &c.—botany, mineralogy, chemistry, and natural history, by their various classes, orders, genus, species, &c. In

Latin. the Latin, where there are six cases and five declensions of nouns, you would want the first five ladders for the declensions, and six steps for the cases; nominative on the first, (pillars,) genitive on the second, (heads,) dative on the third, (feet,) &c. keeping the singular terminations on the left hand, and the plural on the right of each step. See example of one ladder with *Lapis*, a stone.

Cases.	1st Declension.	
	Singular.	*Plural.*
Ablative.	de.	dibus.
	16 ARIES.	
Vocative.	s.	des.
	15 SUN.	
Accusative.	dem.	des.
	14 COMPASSES.	
Dative.	di.	dibus.
	13 FOOT.	
Genitive.	dis.	dum.
	12 SPHINX.	
Nominative.	s.	des.
	11 CLEOPATRA'S NEEDLE.	
	Lapis.	

Botany.—For Botany, this science is admirably calculated—as it is divided into many classes, and some of these into a variety of orders, which are again subdivided into numerous genera, and a still greater multiplicity of species. It is recommended to divide the classes into ladders, and to place the orders of each class on the steps of their respective ladders; and when the first nine classes with their orders are well stored in the mind, take nine ladders more and fill them with the next nine classes, &c.—recollecting to put the tablet upon some fresh wall—thus, when the grand divisions are treasured in the memory or intellectual storehouse, it will be necessary to have a ladder for each order, and a step for each genus, &c. &c. But to

Classes, orders, &c.

proceed with the first nine classes. Flowers are divided into classes, which are distinguished by the number of stamens—thus, 1st class monandria, having one stamen; 2d class diandria, two stamens, &c. Each class is divided into orders, which are distinguished by the number of pistils—thus, flowers of the monandria class have only two orders, viz. monogynia one pistil, digynia two pistils, &c. while some of the classes are divided into twelve orders, having twelve pistils; but there are none of the first nine classes with more than six; however, to prevent prolixity, we subjoin a table of the first nine, with their respective orders.

Classes.	*Orders.*
1. Monandria,	Monogynia.
	Digynia.
2. Diandria,	Monogynia.
	Digynia.
	Trigynia.
3. Triandria,	Monogynia.
	Digynia.
	Trigynia.
4. Tetrandria,	Monogynia.
	Digynia.
	Tetragynia.
5. Pentandria,	Monogynia.
	Digynia.
	Trigynia.
	Tetragynia.
	Pentagynia.
	Polygynia.
6. Hexandria,	Monogynia.
	Digynia.
	Trigynia.
	Tetragynia.
	Polygynia.
7. Heptandria,	Monogynia.
8. Octandria,	Monogynia.
	Digynia.
	Trigynia.
	Tetragynia.
9. Enneandria,	Monogynia.
	Trigynia.
	Heragynia.

MINERALOGY may be arranged in much the same manner, upon ladders and steps: with the preceding hints there will be no difficulty in reducing the subject to a regular system.

MODERN HISTORY, commencing at the birth of Christ.—For the recording and treasuring up historical facts, twenty rooms will be necessary, but do not be alarmed at the formidable number, for they are as easily erected as the materials are purchased, being built of "thin, unsubstantial air." In the imagination, a ground plan only is wanted to prevent confusion. Table 2, fig. 2, represents a ground plan of a house containing twenty rooms. The first room, on the upper side of the left hand quadrangle, may be considered a porch or entrance—it is marked with a cipher—this we will call an orangery, or orange room, as oranges resemble circles or ciphers. The first room in the square, being No. 1, is of course the glass room, glass being the production of a glass-house; the next, having the swan for its emblem, you may call an aviary, or receptacle for birds; the third, a bow or armoury, &c. &c. The room, or vestibule which connects the two squares is No. 10; and as it serves for a passage from one part of the building to the other, you will have it well lighted with the lamp, (10.) Thus being furnished with such articles as designate the number, corresponding with the hieroglyphics—each room will contain the events of one century—the cipher or orange room those of the first century after the birth of Christ, the glass room those of the second century, &c. &c. For dividing each room or century into years, three walls only will be wanted, *i. e.* the first, second, and third; for the division of these walls, see Table 2, fig. 1, where a diagram is divided and numbered for the first wall; and as the three walls are to be divided alike, that will serve for the whole, the figures being varied. Upon this one wall are placed three stripes, *i. e.* the first, second, and third, with their respective decimal places on the ceiling—consequently, if the floor be included, with its nine hieroglyphics, according to the original plan, all numbers up to (39,) will be found on, and attached to, the first wall—therefore the second wall, being divided in like manner, commencing with (40,) on the ceiling of the first stripe of that wall, and disposing of the numbers in their regular rotation, will end with 69. Proceed in a similar way on the third wall—(70) will commence the ceiling, and (99) will end that stripe, (100) being

Porch.

Glass room.

Aviary.

Armoury.

Diagram.

in the centre of the ceiling—so that you have one hundred hieroglyphics in each room, disposed of according to their original order, with only this difference, that there are three stripes concentred on one wall, and the fourth, being that behind you, is left vacant; or, if you like it better, one large hieroglyphic, designating the room or century, can be placed there with advantage. This, however, is entirely optional; for as long as you keep a distinct idea of each room, so as to know one century from another, it is sufficient. We have now one room for each century, and one hieroglyphic for each year, and the connection of them is easy and simple—it is only dividing the date, and taking the room for the hundreds, and the hieroglyphic for the fraction—hence, the use of the cipher room, without which we should have had occasion for as many hieroglyphics as there are years, which would be 1831, almost as difficult to recollect as the Chinese alphabet. According to this plan then, in which room and on which hieroglyphic should I record an event which took place in the year 1476? In the room where the large compasses are, (14,) or if you prefer the other plan, the mathematical room, and on the hieroglyphic Libra, (76,) in that room. In which hieroglyphic, and where, should a circumstance be placed which happened in the year 102? With the Swan in the glass room—that being two years past the first century. Again, I wish to recollect when guns were invented—place one in the hands of *Bacchus*, and let him aim at the large foot, and it will give 1380, that is, (13) for the century, and (80) for the fraction; or should we wish to remember when America was discovered by Columbus, let the first of the series of lines or sciences, Compasses, (14,) be united with the Muses, (92,) and it will give the date, 1492. If the month be required when any particular event took place, the best way is to have some symbolic figure or emblem significant of that month, associated with the fact and hieroglyphic of the year;—thus, suppose, for

One room for each century.

Location of historical facts, &c.

January—A man clothed in fur,
February—A man covered with snow,
March—Boreas,
April—A man dripping with rain,
May—A girl with a basket of flowers,
June—Juno,
July—The genius of America,

August—A man bathing,
September—A man reaping,
October—A man brewing,
November—A man in a fog,
December—A man covered with icicles,

Or any other characteristic trait of the month, as fancy may dictate; all that is necessary, is to let the choice, when made, be permanent. For the day of the month, a mnemonic word must be formed, and applied to the month; but where there are a succession of remarkable events in the life of one man, and possibly all taking place in the course of a very few years, as in that of Bonaparte, a more summary, and probably to many it may appear a more simple, method can be resorted to. For instance, previous to his leaving Elba, there appeared in some of the periodical publications of the day, a list of the most remarkable occurrences of Bonaparte's life, and also of his battles. Take the 12 signs of the zodiac to associate the principal events with, in their regular order;—thus, with Aries, the first sign, his birth at Ajaccio, August 15th, 1769, recorded, where A MAN BATHING (August) to *cool* (15) himself did *pant* (769) like A JACK O.

Bonaparte.

Made General at the siege of Toulon, 1793.	Taurus, (2d sign,) was made a general TOOL ON to *quiet age*=793.
Defeated the Parisians, Oct. 4th, 1794.	Gemini, (3d sign,) the PAIR OF SIGNS, was defeated with a BREWER'S (Oct.) *key*=4, to *put a yoke*,=794.
Sailed to Egypt, May 20th, 1798.	Cancer, (4th sign,) sailed with a GYPSEY, and gave a FLOWER GIRL (May) a *fox*=20, to *pay a tear*=798.
Returned from Egypt, Aug. 23d, 1799.	Leo, (5th sign,) returned with the GYPSY, and saw A MAN BATHING (Aug.) a *fig*=23, to *quiet it*=799.
Declared First Consul, Nov. 10, 1799.	Virgo, (6th sign,) in order to CONSOLE A MAN IN A FOG, (Nov.) gave him a *box*=10, to hold *Aqua vitæ*=799.
Declared Emperor, May 18th, 1804.	Libra, (7th sign,) weighed an *imp*, who gave a *flower girl* (May) some *beer*=18, because she was *so weak*=804.
Declared King of Italy, May 20, 1805.	Scorpio, (8th sign,) said I am a king, I TELL YE, and made the FLOWER GIRL (May) *fix*=20, a *raw eel*=805.

Marriage with Josephine dissolved, December 16th, 1809.	Sagittarius, (9th sign,) shot at the MAN COVERED WITH ICE, (Dec.) and DISSOLVED him because he was JOE SO FINE, and had a *can*=16, and would *row it*=809.
Married Maria Louisa, March 11th, 1810.	Capricornus, (10th sign,) was LOUSY and gave BOREAS (March) a *baubee*=11, to *rub away*=810.
Abdicates the throne, April 11, 1814.	Aquarius, (11th sign,) CAME DOWN, and wet A MAN WITH RAIN, (April,) who was at low *ebb*=11, and was *sick*=814.
Arrived at Elba, May 8th, 1814.	Pisces, (12th sign,) bit the ELBOW of the FLOWER GIRL, (May,) and sent her to *sea*=8, to sit on a *rock*=814.

Battles.

For the battles, take the hieroglyphics in their regular order—thus, for the first battle, (Lodi, May 11th, 1796,) place a LADY by the GLASS HOUSE, (1,) who seeing the FLOWER GIRL, (May,) gave her a *bib*=11, to *put on*=796. For the 12th battle, (Vimeria, August 21st, 1808,) suppose the SPHINX, (12,) says FYE MARY for looking at A MAN BATHING, (August,) who does *daub*=21, and *swear*=808. But to conclude this part of the subject; subjoined is a list of the principal battles in which Bonaparte was engaged up to that time.

1. Battle of Lodi, May 11th, 1796.
2. — Castiglione, August 3d, 1796.
3. — Arcola, November 16th, 1796.
4. — Embabe, July 21st, 1798.
5. — Marengo, June 15th, 1800.
6. — Hohenlinden, December 8th, 1800.
7. — Alexandria, March 22d, 1801.
8. — Austerlitz, December 2d, 1805.
9. — Jena, October 14th, 1806.
10. — Eylau, February 3d, 1807.
11. — Friedland, June 14th, 1807.
12. — Vimeria, August 21st, 1808.
13. — Corunna, January 16th, 1809.
14. — Esling, May 22d, 1809.
15. — Wagram, July 6th, 1809.
16. — Moskwa, September 7th, 1812.
17. — Lutzen, May 1st, 1813.
18. — Bautzen, May 20th, 1813.
19. — Vittoria, June 21st, 1813.
20. — Dresden, August 28th, 1813.
21. — Leipsic, October 18th, 1813.
22. — Montmartre, March 30th, 1814.

ANCIENT HISTORY.—As ancient history is nearly upon the same plan as modern, but very few remarks will be necessary. There are two modes of reckoning, one from the creation downward, and the other from the birth of Christ. We say, Carthage, the rival of Rome, was razed to the ground by the Romans 146 years B. C. (before Christ,)—to record events in ancient history, a diagram or ground floor is presented, Table 2, Fig. 3, where the cipher room contains all events which took place in the first century previous to the Christian æra; the glass room, the second century, &c. connecting the century with the fraction as in modern history, for the first thousand years: and as for the remaining 3004, there is so little known, that one room is sufficient—yet for those who wish to have a more accurate division, a plan is easily suggested.

Take three rooms for the first 3004 years after the creation, each containing the events of 1000 years—of course 100 hieroglyphics in each, one for every 10 years, exclusive of the 4 odd years, which will be sufficiently correct where there is such a paucity of facts. The multiplying of rooms is not difficult, but the crowding of too much matter into one is perplexing, and will tend to what we principally wish to avoid, that is, confusion—as long as you have not a lumber room, it is no matter how many others you have.

DAILY OCCURRENCES.—The application of mnemonics to the recollection of daily occurrences, may interest some, more than any other use to which they have been applied: we will, therefore, endeavour to be explicit, not doubting, that by paying close attention to the rules which will be pointed out, the method will be attained with facility.

division of walls.

For this purpose, as in history, divide each wall of a room into three large stripes perpendicularly, and take the four walls, which will make 12 stripes, for the 12 months, *i. e.* 3 months, or a quarter of a year, upon each wall, beginning as usual at your left hand; so that the first wall will contain January, February, and March; the second wall, April, May, and June; the third wall, July, August, and September; and the fourth wall, October, November, and December. Cast this arrangement over in your thoughts a few minutes, and you will perceive that the middle months on each wall will be exactly faced by one of an opposite character; for the cold month of February, on the first

wall, will be opposite sultry August on the third; and smiling May, on the second, will be faced by surly November on the fourth wall. Study this disposition of the months till you can with ease point them out promiscuously, and then proceed to divide them for the days, as in Table 3, Fig. 2, where you observe that each of the large stripes is subdivided into three ladders, and crossed horizontally into three squares or quadrangles, each of which contains nine places or compartments, with numbers answering to the hieroglyphics in their original order; the decimals, as usual, are placed upon the ceiling over the stripes, and upon the links which connect the squares together—thus, you have thirty on every stripe, and for those months which have 31 days, place the 31st on the floor immediately at the foot of the stripe. If every month were numbered alike, this would repeat the first 31 hieroglyphics so often that it would lead to confusion and difficulty; to obviate this, add 30 to each day of every middle or second month, on each wall, and 60 to each day of every third month—thus, the days of January, April, July, and October, will remain as they are, but to each day of February, May, August, and November, 30 must be added; and to the days of March, June, September, and December, 60 must be added, which an inspection of the diagram will sufficiently explain.

stripes subdivided into ladders.

Agreeably to this plan, what hieroglyphic will stand for the 10th day of January, April, July, or October? the *lamp*, (10;) for the 15th of February, May, August, or November, which hieroglyphic? *Terra*, (45.) What designates the 27th of March, June, September, and December? *Love*, (87.) Thus, you have the hieroglyphics repeated but four times in the year, viz. once a quarter, and that on opposite walls; so that if proper pains be taken to localize the months in their places, no difficulty can occur; for whatever circumstance has taken place, or for any appointment made that you wish to recollect, associate with the hieroglyphic of the day, some emblem denoting the fact you wish to remember, in as striking a point of view as you can devise—it must be supposed that some of the leading circumstances live in the memory; for if all be gone, there is nothing for the mind to lay hold of—but the particulars and day of the month only are wanting. For instance, I hear of a boat being upset and 13 people drowned, say on

Localization.

Association.

the 21st of March—for some reason or other I wish to remember the fact—accordingly I record it. Some time after, a circumstance brings to my recollection the disaster, but I do not call to mind the day when, nor the number of the sufferers, but by recurring to my mnemonic room, I see in the TEMPLE, (81,) upon my first wall a boat bottom upward, with a *cage*=13, upon it, when all the facts I wish are present to my imagination; because I know by its being on the third stripe of that wall, I must deduct 60, which leaves 21st of March. Suppose you had a friend who sailed for New Orleans, or elsewhere, on the 13th of August—place him in a vessel on the back of the ELEPHANT, (43,) on the third wall, and it will be sufficient; for being on the second stripe, I deduct 30, which leaves 13th day, and on the third wall, I know it to be August, &c. &c. Once more it must be repeated, that, always, and in every case, and for every purpose, it is indispensably necessary to localize your ideas, by looking at the very spot on the wall where you deposit them, as upon that and association the whole system depends.

POETRY.—In order to commit poetry to memory, first consider well the imagery, so that each line shall form a kind of picture of sensible objects, which will convey the poet's meaning; and then, taking verse by verse, associate the striking features with the hieroglyphics in successive order.—Thus the first stanza of any poem or sonnet with the glass house—if there are four lines in each verse, deposit your images one in each corner; if five, place one in the middle, &c. only keep them distinct. One example of the first stanza of Edwin and Emma (by Mallet) shall be given:—The GLASS HOUSE, being seen at the remote end of a winding vale, gives a beautiful image of the first line of that charming poem:—

Example.

"Far in the windings of a vale,"

This must be placed at the left top corner of the glass-house square. On the right hand upper corner of the same square place a wood, which seems to shelter some animal that is running fast by it,

"Fast by a shelt'ring wood,"

'Tis true, the poet's idea of "fast by" is *close to*, which is the idiom of the language; but were you to simply place the glass house close to a wood, you might mistake the words for "close to a shelt'ring wood," and

although that is sense and good grammar, yet they are not the precise words of the poet. In the lower left corner of the square, place any thing that gives you an idea of health and peace, in a safe place—for instance, a castle gives the idea of safety, with the figure of health looking out of it, and an olive branch in her hand,

"The safe retreat of health and peace,"

Then, for the fourth line, in the lower right hand corner, place a cottage; but as lowly and humble are nearly synonymous, see a *humble-bee* buzzing about the windows, and you have the precise words,

"A humble cottage stood."

Here you have the first verse or stanza, the second must be associated with the Swan, the third with the Bow, &c. &c.

Advantages of this plan.

The advantages arising from studying a piece of poetry in this manner, are, 1st. The author must be well understood, therefore a youth cannot get a thing by rote, like a parrot, without understanding it; of course his mind and judgment must be improved, as it exercises the fancy, brightens the ideas, and gives a kind of elasticity to thought. 2dly. It gives a stability and permanency to the thing, making impressions that cannot easily be eradicated. 3dly. By this means, if it should be desirable to recollect any particular verse, or even line, in a poem, it can be called to mind at once by the same method as was pointed out in chronology. If you want the seventh stanza, for instance, look at the seventh hieroglyphic; if the third line in the fifteenth verse be wanted, look at the lower left hand corner of the *Sun*, and you have it. If a poem be not divided into stanzas, the most convenient way is to divide it into fives; that is, five for each hieroglyphic; and by this means, you may with ease pick out any particular line; for instance, the 34th line is wanted: divide 34 by 5, it gives 6, and 4 remains; therefore it is the fourth line or bottom right hand corner of the *mower*, the 7th hieroglyphic; the 5th being in the middle, see what image you have placed there, and it gives the line in question.

Prose.—For prose a very few hieroglyphics are sufficient—one of the series of heads appear to be the most appropriate. In general, it is not so much the exact words of an author that we want, as his ideas and meaning; the same may be said of public speaking, whether in

hearing or delivering a discourse; order and regularity, are, however, essentially necessary; for however excellent the ideas, and with whatever care the words are chosen, if they are not arranged and properly digested under their respective heads, they will certainly fail in making a lasting impression on the mind.

In reading, we have the advantage of reperusal and study; so that if we do not catch the author's idea the first time, another attempt can be made, and time taken to arrange the thoughts and expressions in our own minds; therefore, such ideas as we wish to preserve can be regularly deposited in their proper order, as most books are divided into paragraphs, and sections or chapters; in this case you can make use of as many hieroglyphics as you choose, and arrange them as fancy or judgment dictates, either in series upon ladders and steps, (as fig. 6.) where the ladders will do for the grand divisions of an author, and the steps for the minor or subdivisions—or in their original order, (as fig. 1.) where you may either take a whole stripe for a grand division, (which would be nine in both rooms,) and a hieroglyphic for a subdivision, or use a hieroglyphic for each head, and the corners for the minor divisions, as in poetry; the same minute methods, indeed, could be applied to hearing or speaking; but it is generally thought unnecessary.

Concluding Remarks.—The student should be perfectly satisfied as to the authenticity of a fact before he takes much pains to make mnemonic sentences and associations, as experience warrants the assertion, that when once made and implanted on the mind, they become so indelible as not to be easily effaced. This system, when applied to dates and numerical calculations, gives a certainty of reminiscence; there is no such thing as "I think it is somewhere thereabout;" or, "it happened sometime thereabout!" No, you either remember it correctly or not at all; and further, effective figures, no matter how many places they consist of, are as easily remembered as ciphers. Be not under apprehension, that thinking of the hieroglyphics or their locality, will be an interruption, or draw your attention from the subject you are hearing or reading; for be assured before you can reap any extensive advantage from this system, the names, numbers, and places of the hieroglyphics must be as familiar as the way into your pocket.

Certainty.

TABLE I.

Fig. 1.

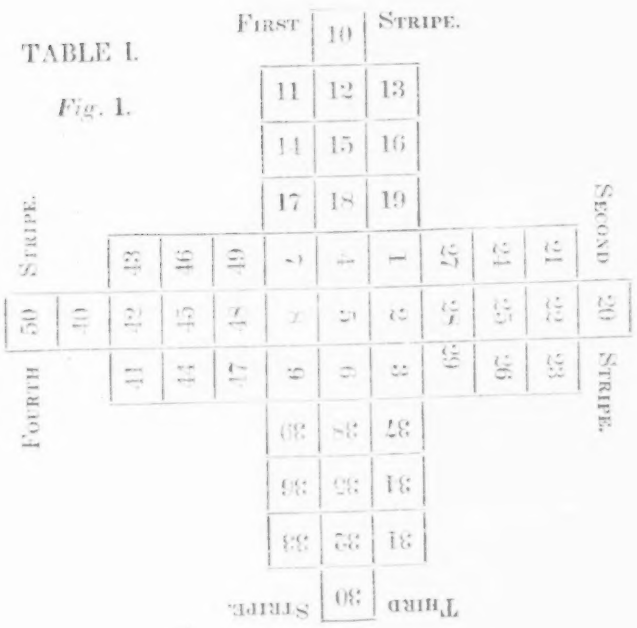

Fig. 2.

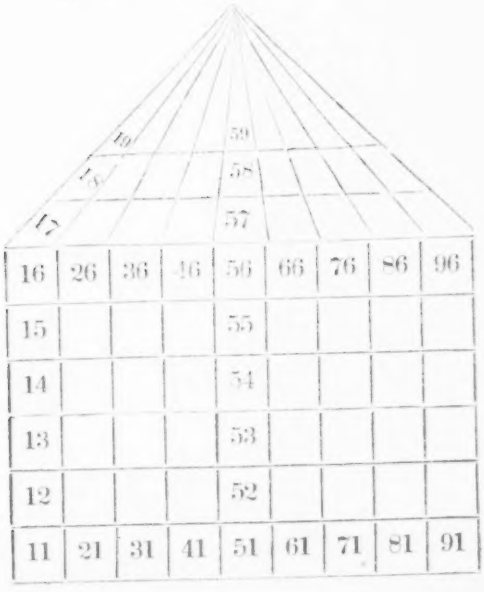

TABLE II.

HISTORICAL WALL, No. 1.

Fig 1.

	10			20			30	
11	12	13	21	22	23	31	32	33
14	15	16	24	25	26	34	35	36
17	18	19	27	28	29	37	38	39

Fig. 2.

MODERN HISTORY.

	0					
1	2	3		11	12	13
4	5	6	10	14	15	16
7	8	9		17	18	19

Fig. 3.

ANCIENT HISTORY.

	0	
1	2	3
4	5	6
7	8	9
	3004	

Table V.

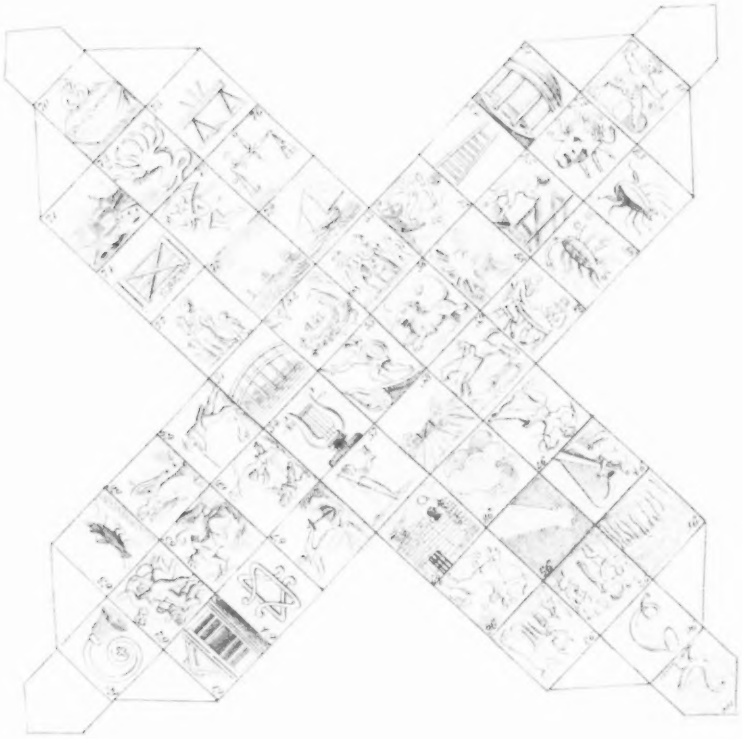

Table IV.

Fig 1.

TABLE 3.

Religion,	19	29	39	49	59	69	79	89	99
Revenue,	18	28	38	48	58	68	78	88	98
Commerce,	17	27	37	47	57	67	77	87	97
Army and Navy,	16	26	36	46	56	66	76	86	96
Government,	15	25	35	45	55	65	75	85	95
Arts & Sciences,	14	24	34	44	54	64	74	84	94
Produce,	13	23	33	43	53	63	73	83	93
Population,	12	22	32	42	52	62	72	82	92
Territory,	11	21	31	41	51	61	71	81	91

DAILY OCCURRENCES.

Fig 2.

	30			60			90	
1	2	3	31	32	33	61	62	63
4	5	6	34	35	36	64	65	66
7	8	9	37	38	39	67	68	69
	10			40			70	
11	12	13	41	42	43	71	72	73
14	15	16	44	45	46	74	75	76
17	18	19	47	48	49	77	78	79
	20			50			80	
21	22	23	51	52	53	81	82	83
24	25	26	54	54	56	84	85	86
27	28	29	57	58	59	87	88	89
	31			61			91	

EXPLANATORY NOTE TO THE READER.

In the first volume of this work, I gave an explanation of my *common place book*, *tabular index*, &c. together with the necessary instructions for persons wishing to adopt the plan. In addition to that, my *place books* are now pretty extensively before the public; still, for the benefit of those who have not received the first volume, and who may not find it convenient otherwise to supply themselves with the published scheme, I shall subjoin the following abridgment, fully persuaded, that it will be found not only interesting but highly useful.

An abridged explanation of Gould's common-place-plan.

Convinced, as I am, of its great utility, I should do injustice to my own sense of duty, did I not most earnestly enjoin upon all young men, the early adoption of this, or some other systematic plan, by which to refer in future, if necessary, without loss of time or labour, to any or all the topics which may have engaged their attention through life.

Days, weeks, and months are wasted, by almost every individual of any considerable attainments, in tiresome, and often fruitless search, for that which has been seen, heard, or read, and to which recurrence is desirable; but for want of some rational and fixed design, it is, perhaps, lost for ever.

When we reflect upon the scrupulous exactness with which the account books of a prudent merchant, farmer, or mechanic, are made to show the place, circumstance, or disposition of every item of his property and money, not within his immediate and constant notice—when we see men, comparatively uneducated, turning at pleasure to the most minute items of a complicated account, of several years standing, when they have, perhaps, hundreds or thousands of a like character—is it not a matter of astonishment, that nineteen-twentieths of our well informed men, are unable, when called on, to refer with any degree of facility or certainty, to a hundredth part of the valuable information which, in past times, they may have called their own, but of which they have now only a vague or indistinct recollection!

as used

Why is this! Is it that the items, which go to make up our fund of useful knowledge, are so much less valuable than the items which compose our perishable earthly riches! Certainly not. It is, that no one, since the days of Locke, has taken it upon

himself to draw out a rational plan, to adapt it to the capacity of youth, and the use of schools, by rendering it plain, cheap, and portable—it is, that our fathers by himself have done without system, and our contemporaries now do without—that, from our most humble primary schools, to our colleges and universities, the learner is permitted to revel amid profusions of useful learning, without method or design, other than to lavish and for the time, and depend on memory for the future. To see the absurdity of this prodigal course, we have only to refer it to any of the pursuits of life, except the one of hoarding useful knowledge.

Having myself suffered all the inconvenience and many of loss which I so much deprecate, I have determined to do something for others: and it is a source of not a little gratification, that my labours are beginning to be appreciated. Hundreds and thousands are already awake to the subject, and I trust that in a very few years, it will be permitted to hold a respectable place in the catalogue of necessary school accomplishments. The vast importance of such instruction in early life, his pupils; is too obvious to require further comment—I therefore proceed to the plan.

I make use of a *common place book*, embracing about two or three hundred pages, and furnished at the beginning with a tabular index, of which pages 292 and 293 present a specimen—the annexed parallelogram on page 294, may, for the sake of illustration, be considered as so many pages of the place book. When I see, hear, or read, any thing and earnestly to which I would refer in future, I open to the first blank page that is an even number, and make the necessary memorandum of ideas, facts, circumstances, time, place, &c.—if from an author, the edition, volume, page, section, &c. and in the left hand margin place some appropriate word to indicate the subject—and from that time forward, no items are ever entered in this page, or the one facing it, except they commence with the same characteristic letters. For recom- example—suppose the first page to be 6, the subject *Chronology*,—here C is the *first letter*, and o the *first vowel, after the first letter*—these then are the characteristic letters for all that is ever to be *entered in this* place, and show in what section of my index I am to place fig. 6. As the merchant opens accounts mended with A, B, and C—so have I now opened an account with Co, and to this account I continue to add all sub-

jects beginning with C, followed by o—viz. Cromwell, Constantinople, Constitutions, &c. &c.

to all — In the same manner I open an account with Bo, in which I enter Bonaparte, Bolivar, and all subjects of this class—one with Ba, for Banks—with Ge, for Geography, Geology, Geometry, George I. II. III. IV. &c.

who — By this arrangement, it will be perceived, I am not tied to the usual alphabetic order—for I may commence with Y or Z, and end with A, or any other letter, without liability to confusion—filling my book no faster than circumstances may from time to time require. Upon this plan, my index of two pages will answer for my entire life, though I should have occa-

think — sion to refer to the contents of ten thousand volumes. Through the preceding work, marginal words have been placed for the convenience of the reader, and particularly for those who may wish to pursue the plan here recommended.

with — For want of room, I am compelled to be brief, and therefore give but a barren sketch of the *Place book*. It is believed, however, that no one can be at a loss how to proceed in filling up the outlines which I have drawn. The Place book is by no means to be confined to the simple objects of an index, as a means of reference to other works; but should serve as a *me-*

the wise — *morandum book* for entries, complete in themselves, when sufficient time can be spared for that purpose; of these, every individual may in the course of his life make thousands—the plan being once familiarized, we are never at a loss where to make our entries, so that they may be infallibly turned to, at pleasure. It

man, that — is, in fact, nothing more nor less than a systematic method of book keeping—having to do with words, sentences, ideas, facts, &c. instead of pounds, dollars, cents, &c.—a continued account, in which the one

knowledge — who keeps it is, for life, Dr.— to useful knowledge, —Cr. The same tabular index will answer for a dozen Place books, should so many be filled.

Although the following pages were not designed as an index to this volume, particularly, still they may answer a tolerable purpose, as most subjects have been ranged in the usual alphabetic order. For in-

is better — stance, if I would know when Charles the first was beheaded, I look to my index for Ca, where I find the figures 16, referring to the 16th page of my Place book. On turning to this page I do not discover

than — CHARLES in the margin, and therefore conclude I

riches,

or even,

that

time is

money, and

that

a penny

saved is

worth two

earned.

have no reference to it—but it immediately occurs to me, that this is an item under the head Chronology. I therefore look to Co. in my index, and am referred to page 6, of my *place book*, where I learn that Chronology is to be found in alphabetic order, from the 25th to the 72d page inclusive, of Repertory, volume 2. Here I turn to Charles, alphabetically, as I would to a word in a common dictionary. I find it upon the 36th page, where I have a very satisfactory abstract of his life, death, &c. such as would be proper to make respecting any distinguished individual of whom we read. Suppose I want to know some fact respecting the *boundaries*, *mountains*, *rivers*, *cities*, *government*, *sovereign*, *capital city*, or *population* of any country in Europe—if my index is sufficiently minute to recognize the several governments individually, I turn to the particular at once; but if not, as must frequently be the case, it immediately occurs to me, that under the head *Statistics* or *Geography*, I may find light upon the subject. I accordingly look to my index Sa, where I find the figures 14—the page of my place book to which I must turn for a reference. Here I am told that Repertory, vol. 2, from page 97 to 120, is devoted to the statistics and geography of Europe, the governments being in alphabetic order. I have then only, to look as in a dictionary or gazetteer, to AUSTRIA, FRANCE, GREAT BRITAIN, RUSSIA, &c.

Again—if I would know the *latitude*, *longitude*, *population*, &c. of any CITY in Europe, I look to my index Ci, where I find figure 2: I accordingly open my place book at page 2, and am thence referred to American Repertory, vol. 2, pages 119-20, where is the necessary information respecting 64 of the largest cities in Europe. From the little specimen of a *dozen pages*, here given, the reader may form a pretty correct estimate of the general scope of a place book of *two hundred pages*; and each individual may pursue the subject, just so far as circumstances shall justify, and whether he do much or little, it is useful in exact proportion to what he does. It is very different in the common alphabetic order. The American edition of the Edinburg Encyclopedia, was about 20 years in the press, before the *all-important* subject of STEAM could be reached in its alphabetic order, while thousands of minor and unimportant subjects have occupied the previous pages of that mammoth production.

MARCUS T. C. GOULD.

TABULAR INDEX

TO GOULD'S COMMON-PLACE BOOKS.

SIMILAR TO THE PLAN OF DR. JOHN LOCKE.

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TO GOULD'S COMMON-PLACE BOOKS.

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	i		i
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	u	Q	u

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Ci.—2.	Ja.—4.	Co.—6.
Cities of Europe. See Am. Rep. vol. 2, pp. 119 and 120.	*James*, I. II. III. IV. V. VI of Scotland. See Am. Rep. vol. 2, pp. 54, 55.	*Chronology*, &c. See Am. Repertory, vol. 2, pp. 25 to 72 inclusive, in alphabetical order.
Cincinnati, society of. See Encyclopedia Americana, vol. 3, p. 201.	*Janus*. See Am. Rep. vol. 2, p. 147.	*Cromwell*. See Am. Rep. vol. 2 p. 39, or Encyclopedia Americana, vol. 3, p. 43.
Cincinnati, city of Ohio with about 30,000 inhabitants. See Map recently published by Capt. H. L. Barnum, an authentic and beautiful production of art, in the west. 1831.	*Jason*. See do. do. do.	*Constantinople*. See Am. Rep. vol. 2, p. 98.
	Ja.—4.	*Constitutions* of the U. S. and of each individual state. See Am. Rep. 1st. Edit. vol. 1 p. 109 to 120.
	Jackson, Andrew, President of the U. S. elected Feb. 16, 1829, inaugural address March 4, 1829.	

Bo.—8.	Ba.—10.	Na.—12.
Bonaparte. See Am. Rep. vol. 2, p. 33.	*Banks*, of Venice, Hamburg, England, Scotland, America, U. States. See Am. Rep. vol. 2, p. 31.	*Natural Philosophy*. See Amer. Rep. vol. 2, from p. 73 to 96 inclusive.
Bolivar. See do. do. do.	*Battles* of the American Revolution. Amer. Rep. vol. 2, p. 72.	*National Debt*, of England and U. States. See Am. Rep. pp. 37, 38.
Bombay. See do. do. do.	*Battles*, by sea. See Am. Rep. vol. 2, p. 31.	*Nuntz*, edict of, passed by Henry IV. See Am. Rep. vol. 2, p. 57.
Bosphorus. See do. do. do.		
Bothwell. See do. do. do.		
Boulogne. See do. do. do.		
Botany Bay, or New South Wales, discovered by Captain Cook, 1770. So called from the great number of herbs found on the shore.		

Sa.—11.	Ca.—16.	Co.—17.
Statistics of Europe. See Am. Rep. vol. 2, pp. 97 to 120 inclusive, and in alphabetical order.	*Classical Dictionary*. See Am. Rep. vol. 2, from p. 145 to 171 inclusive, and in alphabetical order.	*Chemistry*. See Am. Rep. vol. 2, p. 175 to 222.
Saxons, the ancient, were pirates, and inhabited three small isl. and at the mouth of the Elbe—arrived in England, A. D. 449, having been invited over by the Britons.	*Canals*, of Egypt, China, Italy, Denmark, Holland, Germany, Spain, France, Great Britain, and the U. S. See Encyclo. Americana, vol. 2, pp. 447 to 466.	*Colleges*. See Encyclopedia Americana, vol. 3, p. 24.
		Cemetts. See do. do.
		Cenotaph. See do. do.
		Centaurs. See do. do.
		Central fire. See do. do.
		Central forces. See do. do.

Op.—20.	Me.—22.	Ge.—24.
Optics. See Am. Rep. vol. 2, p. 246 to 249.	*Mnemonics*. See Am. Rep. vol. 2, p. 246 to 249.	*Georges of England*, I. II. III. IV. See Am. Rep. vol. 2, p. 47.
Ovid, a celebrated Roman poet. See Am. Rep. vol. 2, p. 155.	*Menelaus*, king of Sparta, and husband of Helen, of Greece—a famous centaur.	*Geography*. See Morse, Worcester, Malte-brun—the latter is the most complete work ever published upon this subject.
Origen. See do. do.	*Mens conscia recti*. Lat. "A mind conscious of rectitude.	
Orion. See do. do.		
Orinoco, a river of the first class, in South America. It rises in the mountains of Guiana, and is 1500 miles long.		